Annexure. [See Appendix 170, Annexure No. 13]

(b) The main reasons for the increase in the prices are the gap between demand and supply of pulses, failure of monsoon in some of the oil producing areas, the overall increase in consumption of sugar coupled with the estimated low production during the year 1993-94, damage to the potatoes and onions crop in their producing areas and limited production to Gram and reduced imports.

(c) The Government has been taking appropriate measures on regular basis for containing the prices of essential commodities like setting up of an Inter-Ministerial Co-ordination Committee on monitoring the prices, availability and forecasting of selected essential commodities; reduction of the stock holding limits of producers, manufacturers and dealers of oilseeds and oils by 50% intensified action again the hoarders, black marketeers and those indulging in unfair trade practices, import of palmolein and strengthening of Public Distribution System.

Welfare of women employees working in Super Bazar

636. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cases of exploitation of women employees in the Super Bazar are on the increase, particularly by their male counter-parts and the suppliers;

(b) if so, what are the details of action plan initiated to combat this menace;

(c) whether Government have launched any new scheme for the welfare of women employees of the Super Bazar;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the amount sanctioned for the scheme; and

(e) by when this scheme is scheduled to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The Super Bazar has reported that they have not received any report from female employees regarding exploitation from suppliers. There was a complaint received in May, 92 from a female employee regarding disorderly behaviour by a security staff. The concerned official was issued a show cause notice and thereafter a recordable warning was served upon him in July, 1992.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

सुपर बाजार में महिला-कर्मचारियों के साथ अभद्र व्यवहार किए जाने की शिकायतें

637. **श्रीमती चन्द्रिका अभिनन्दन जैन:** क्या **नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सुपर बाजार की आई०एन०ए० तथा चाणक्यपुरी स्थित शाखाओं में पुरुष कर्मचारियों द्वारा महिला बिक्री सहायक के साथ छेड़खानी तथा अभद्र व्यवहार करने की घटनाएं हुई थीं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान हुई ऐसी घटनाओं का ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) दोषी पाए गए कर्मचारियों तथा शिकायतकर्ता के नाम क्या-क्या हैं तथा उक्त घटनाओं का तिथि-वार ब्यौरा क्या है;

(घ) सुपर बाजार के महाप्रबंधक ने दोषी पाए गए पुरुष कर्मचारियों के विरुद्ध क्या अनुशासनात्मक कार्यवाही की है;

(ङ) दोषी पाए गए पुरुष कर्मचारी तथा शिकायत करने वाली महिला-कर्मचारी इस समय कहां-कहां तैनात हैं;

(च) क्या महाप्रबंधक ने ऐसे कोई अनुदेश जारी किए हैं कि सभी महिला-कर्मचारियों को केवल कनॉट प्लेस स्थित शाखा में ही तैनात किया जाना चाहिए; और

(छ) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

नागरिक पूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमालुद्दीन अहमद): (क) से (छ). सुपर बाजार ने सूचित किया है कि उन्हें एक सुरक्षा कर्मी द्वारा उच्छृंखल व्यवहार के बारे में एक महिला कर्मचारी से मई, 1992 में केवल एक शिकायत प्राप्त हुई थी। संबंधित कर्मचारी को कारण बताओ नोटिस जारी किया गया था और उसके बाद जुलाई, 1992 में उसे एक रिकार्ड की जाने वाली चेतावनी जारी की गई थी। सुपर बाजार ने यह भी सूचित किया है कि उन्हें पुरुष कर्मचारियों द्वारा छेड़ने व दुर्व्यवहार करने के बारे में महिला कर्मचारियों से कोई और शिकायत प्राप्त नहीं हुई है। महिला कर्मचारी यशवन्त प्लेस में स्थित चाणक्यपुरी शाखा में तैनात थी और पुरुष सुरक्षा कर्मी आई० एन० ए० क्षेत्रीय वितरण केंद्र पर तैनात था। दोनों कर्मचारी अपनी तैनाती की ही जगह पर कार्य कर रहे हैं। सुपर बाजार ने सूचित किया है कि महाप्रबंधक ने सभी महिला कर्मचारियों को कनॉट प्लेस शाखा में तैनात करने के कोई अनुदेश जारी नहीं किए हैं।

Panel to monitor rising prices of Essential Commodities

638. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be peased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have set up a panel to monitor prices of essential commodities in the country which have shown sudden spurt in their prices in the recent months;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what work the panel has done so far to check the rising prices of essential commodities with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An inter-Ministerial Co-ordination Committee for monitoring the prices and availability and forecasting the shortages etc. of essential commodities has been constituted in the Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution on 18.1.1994 under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Civil Supplies, CA&PD). The Committee, *inter-alia*, would review the prices of essential commodities, their availability and would suggest measures for stabilising prices.

(c) The Committee has held 3 meetings so far and the Sate Governments have been requested to take stern action against hoarders, black-marketeers and those indulging in unfair trade practices so as to keep the retail prices under control.

District consumer Fora on part-time basis

639. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of consumer Fora in various parts of the country are functioning on part-time basis for two or three days in a week with part-time district judges as their presiding officers;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what remedial action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c), Yes, Sir. There are a number of District Fora in States which are working on part-time basis. The State Governments are responsible for converting these Fora into full time. The position is reviewed by the State Governments keeping in view the work load, financial implications etc. Recently,